

## Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10  
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11  
/064 W

-----019558 312243Z /73

R 310825Z MAY 78  
FM AMCONSUL KADUNA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4015  
AMEMBASSY LAGOS

C O N F I D E N T I A L KADUNA 0654

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PGOV, PDEV, NI  
SUBJECT: NORTHERN POLITICAL MEETINGS/SHARIA NOT DEAD

1. WAZIRI OF KATSINA TOLD ME LAST NIGHT HE TRAVELLING TO LAGOS FOR MEETING OF NORTHERN CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY MEMBERS BEEFED UP BY A NUMBER OF PRE-1966 NORTHERN POLITICAL LUMINARIES. MEETING IS TO BE HELD ON JUNE 3 AT CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY OSTENSIBLY TO ENABLE NON-MCA "LEADERS OF THOUGHT" TO ADVISE NORTHERN MEMBERS ON SHARIA COURT ISSUE. IN FACT MEETING IS DESIGNED TO (A) DISCUSS WAYS AND MEANS OF ACHIEVING GREATER UNITY AMONG NORTHERN STATES, PARTICULARLY IN PERIOD BETWEEN END OF CA PROCEEDINGS AND OFFICIAL TERMINATION OF BAN ON POLITICS; AND (B) TO CRITIQUE PERFORMANCE THUS FAR OF NORTHERN CA MEMBERS AND TO SUGGEST IMPROVED TECHNIQUES FOR REMAINDER OF CA SESSION.

2. ACCORDING TO WAZIRI, NORTHERN CA MEMBERS NOW REALIZE THAT THEIR INEXPERIENCE IN POLITICAL GIVE-AND-TAKE HAS RESULTED IN NON-ACHIEVEMENT MANY NORTHERN GOALS AT CA. THEREFORE, THEY CALLING IN "OLD WAR HORSES" FOR GUIDANCE AND ADVICE. HOLDING MEETING AT CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY AND LABELING IT AS DISCUSSION MEETING ON SHARIA  
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IS DESIGNED TO CIRCUMVENT EXISTING BAN ON POLITICS.

3. MEETINGS IN KANO AND KADUNA OF NORTHERN POLITICIANS (OLD AND NEW) RECENTLY HAD TAKEN PLACE. REPORTS THAT POLICE IN KANO HAD PREVENTED MEETING THERE WERE ERRONEOUS; PARTICIPANTS NEVER INTENDED MEET AT CENTRAL HOTEL IN KANO AS POLICE WERE LED TO BELIEVE. AMINU KANO AND

INUWA WADA, WHO WERE GIVEN ADVANCE BILLING AS "STARS OF THE SHOW" SIMPLY STAYED AT HOME AND WERE REPRESENTED BY DEPUTIES. KADUNA MEETING WAS HELD AT HOUSE SO OBSCURE THAT SOME INVITEES WERE UNABLE TO FIND IT.

4. ASKED ABOUT STATUS OF SHARIA ISSUE, WAZIRI SAID NORTH HAD OBTAINED SHEL VING OF ROTIMI-WILLIAMS MOTION FOR RECONSIDERATION OF SHARIS IN ORDER GAIN TIME TO SEEK MORE MOSLEM YORUBA AND IBO MEMBERS SUPPORT. CHIEF ABIOLA HAS BEEN CHARGED WITH ROUNDING UP MOSLEM YORUBAS. (NOTED IN WEEKEND PRESS PHOTO OF ABIOLA WITH TURI MOHAMMED AND SEVERAL OTHER PROMINENT NORTHERNS AT FINCTION IN ABIOLA'S HOME TOWN.) WAZIRI SAID HE PRETTY SURE 116 NEEDED VOTES ON SHARIA WOULD BE FORTHCOMING.

5. COMMENT: IT QUESTIONABLE WHETHER FMG AND POLICE WILL BUY JUNE 3 MEETING AS NON-POLITICAL.  
BURKE

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## Message Attributes

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**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION, COURTS  
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**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
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**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
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